



The  
United  
Methodist  
Church

# The Beacon

## CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 6, Issue 11

November 2015

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### *Craft Fair Update*

Due to an underwhelming response for booth space, we have, with very heavy hearts, decided to cancel the craft fair this year. We only had 8 vendors signed up as of a week before the show with little promise of gaining any more. This is a great show and an absolute win-win for everyone; one stop shopping for the upcoming holidays as well as supporting local artisans. So start spreading the word for next year!

### *Thank you from Fellowship*

Our "mortgage burning" Sunday was a great success. I need to say "Thank You" to all those who so willingly helped with serving the cake and punch. Margie Harris, Kay Lewis, Myra Nichols and Theresa Long. To Peggy Clark who furnished all the items for the punch, mixed and kept the punch bowls filled, I send a special "Thanks". Of course, I must also thank Barbara Coleman for her efforts in getting the cakes ordered (and decorated so beautifully) and delivered to the church on time. There was even a "Happy Birthday" cake to celebrate our Pastor's birthday. OH HAPPY DAY "NO MORE DEBTS"!

Bobbie Allison,  
Fellowship Coordinator

### *Worship Committee Updates*

We have some very important dates for upcoming events in November and December.

November 1st through the end of the month, we will have a Cornucopia on the Chancel. We would like the congregation to bring nonperishable food to place around the Cornucopia to share the bounty. The food will be given to the food bank.

November 28<sup>th</sup> the committee will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. We would like to invite everyone to come and help decorate the church. Starting time is 9AM.

The Christmas Cantata will be on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM. There will only be one service that Sunday.

The Christmas Eve Service, Lessons and Carols, and Candlelight is at 7PM on Christmas Eve.

### Sunday Worship

**8:15 a.m. Blended**

**11:00 a.m. Traditional**

**9:30 Sunday School**

# Pennings by Pastor Esther



## ***Led Around By Your “Gotta Haves”***

Two women who had just met at a health spa were talking about their lifestyles and how they hope to stay healthy. One asked the other to detail her daily routine.

“I eat moderately,” she replied, “I exercise moderately, I drink moderately, and I live moderately.”

“Is there anything else you do?” her new friend asked.

“Yes,” she said, “I lie extensively.”

A Hindu proverb says, “Even nectar is poison if taken in excess.” I believe in moderation. But moderation takes a certain amount of self-discipline. It’s about saying no from time to time. But how does it feel to never say no? To be out of control? Success and even happiness are simply not possible without some inner discipline.

Without learning how to say no to ourselves at the appropriate times, it’s like we’re led around by our “gotta haves” all our lives. Whatever we think we gotta have this moment is what we go after. We gotta have more pleasure or less discomfort or this experience or that new thing or another glass or more of this or a bigger and better something else.... You fill in the blanks.

On the other hand, some of the happiest people I know feel in control of themselves most of the time. If they overdo, their excessiveness does not become a lifestyle. If they deviate from the goals they’ve set, they soon get back on course. They know how to have fun without being led around by their “gotta haves.”

I like the words of Bernard Baruch. “In the last analysis,” he said, “our only freedom is the freedom to discipline ourselves.” The point is -- control is going to come from somewhere. If not from ourselves, then from somebody else.

Discipline is deciding not to be led around by our gotta haves. It is the task of a lifetime, an indispensable prerequisite to success, and the only way to be truly free.

Blessings and Peace,

*Pastor Esther*

### ***Bridal Shower For the Pastor!***

All of the ladies of the church are invited to join in the fun as we celebrate Pastor Esther’s upcoming wedding. The bridal shower will be held at the church on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM. There is a list of gift ideas posted on the bulletin board outside the office that includes things like Gift Cards to Grocery stores and VISA gift cards (which can be used anywhere).

## ***Saturday Night at the Hop***

Wow! What a time we had. It really was a “Cool Bash.”

The food was typical 50’s. You can’t beat hamburgers and hot dogs, cooked on charcoal grills, by outstanding Chefs like Bernard Miller and Paul Burshuliak. All the trimmings were available, as well as scrumptious baked beans. The meal was topped off with delicious desserts.

Connie Lorey and Paul Burshuliak won the “Best Dressed” contest, but they weren’t alone in their “Jazzy Duds.” Many of the attendees dressed appropriately for those “Hip” years.

We had a surprise visit from Virginia Patterson Hensley a.k.a. Patsy Cline a.k.a. Robin Stowers. Robin gave a great performance, with lots of laughs.

The evening was completed with a highly successful auction, conducted by Auctioneer Mike Zieman.

It was a very productive get-together, in regard to the number of dinner tickets obtained and the exciting collection of auction items, donated and sent home with new owners. The resulting funds will assist Calvary with it’s obligations.

We thank the generous people, who attended. We also give a big round of praise to those, who assisted in any way, with the success of the evening. We had an outstanding team.

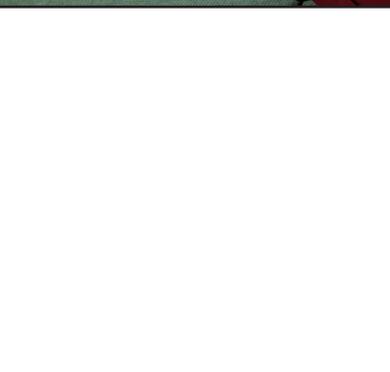
The next time we have a special evening, give some thought to joining us. You won’t be disappointed.

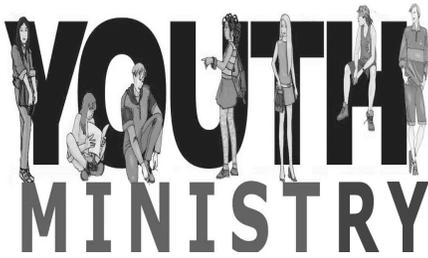
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## ***Fellowship Hall Remodel***

We recently redid the floors in the Fellowship Hall. Here are a few before and after pictures to enjoy!





\*\*\*\*\* YOUTH NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

Here at Calvary we have a warm loving accepting youth group where all youth can be a part. Through the school year we take part in service projects such as “Souper Bowl Sunday” to help the homeless or those in need of food with Calvary food pantry. Participate in the selling of pumpkins in the Pumpkin Patch! We also perform in the annual Christmas play here at Calvary. Additionally we take part in the Easter egg hunt. We also perform dramas during Holy Week.

Our Youth Group is open to all ‘Rising’ Sixth Graders through High School seniors. We would love for any and all youth to come and share in Christian fellowship! Our regular meetings take place on Wednesday evenings 5:30 till 7:00. During that time we also enjoy pizza or tacos and hamburgers, and sometimes steamed lobster. And if we are real lucky, Burrito Brothers!!

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please speak with Youth Director Fran “The Man” Ronan or his PA, George Clooney. We hope to see you real soon!

Email FTMYD@hotmail.com 904-272-4210

*Fran “The Man” Ronan*

### ***Cuba Updates***

Here are the dates for travel for 2016. I would like to see a group of us go from Calvary. You just don’t get the whole picture until you see it for yourself.

Remember that the Cuban government requires that each of our trips be tied to an “event;” but the reality is that most (or all) of our travelers’ time will be spent with their sister churches. The trips are typically a week, though shorter trips are now possible. Expenses run around \$1,000, and we ask each church to make a love offering to their sister church of \$1,000 if possible.

Exact dates will come later, but here are our six travel opportunities:

#### **May – Seminary Graduation**

Need expressions of interest: January

Need commitments by: March

#### **June – Annual Conference**

Need expressions of interest: January

Need commitments by: March

#### **July – Youth/Young Adults Conferences**

Need expressions of interest: February

Need commitments by: April

#### **September – Women’s Conference**

Need expressions of interest: April

Need commitments by: June

#### **October – Men’s Conference**

Need expressions of interest: May

Need commitments by: July

Please spread the word and let’s energize our Cuba ministry like never before!

Blessings, George Reed

## ***Methodists United in Prayer (formerly Cuba/Florida Covenant)***

A relationship between The Methodist Church in Cuba and the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Affirming our common bond in Jesus Christ and our historical Wesleyan ties, we, the members of The Methodist Church in Cuba and the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, propose the “Methodists United in Prayer,” as a relationship in Christ with one another. Noting Paul’s words to the very diverse community gathering in a house church in Corinth, that “...we are partners in the work of service to our God...” (1 Cor. 3:9), we acknowledge our partnership for greater service to the mission of God and a stronger witness to the love of Jesus Christ.

To bring these visions to reality, we will hold the following values as the basis for our common ministry:

\_ God’s love (John 3:16) For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

\_ Prayer (James 5:16) Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

\_ Spiritual Development (Col. 1:9) For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.

\_ Mutuality (Ro 14:19) Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual up building.

\_ Respect (1 Thes 5:11-12) Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you.

\_ Collaboration (1 Cor. 3:9) You are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

As we imagine our work and uphold the values for common ministry, we envision the fruits of our common work. We pledge ourselves to focus our efforts on these priorities of our two Conferences:

\_ To pray for one another and develop a common study of Scriptures.

\_ To engage in the interchange of peoples of Cuba and Florida Conferences work teams, preachers, laity, caravans, study teams, professors, teachers and choirs.

\_ To respond to the priorities of the Methodist Church in Cuba.

\_ To build relationships between the Florida Conference and the Methodist Church in Cuba for mutual support and encouragement.

\_ To enable the training of pastors and lay people for the equipping of Cuban disciples.

\_ To mutually share the history, current events, culture and spirituality of both Conferences.

## **Health expert: United Methodists saving millions**

**HEATHER HAHN**

NOVEMBER 6, 2014

United Methodist generosity and creativity in the fight against malaria are saving millions of people's lives, a world-known expert on tropical diseases told the denomination's bishops.

"I have heard about the work that your congregations, particularly your young people, have been doing — the level of creativity, energy and commitment — to save the lives of millions of children and women in Africa," said Dr. Christoph Benn.

He is the director of external relations and a founding board member of the Geneva-based Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. He addressed the Council of Bishops during an update on the denomination's Imagine No Malaria initiative.

"You have the sincere thanks of not only of the Global Fund, your partner, but also all the people whose lives have been changed by these activities," he said.

So far, the global United Methodist Church has raised an estimated \$64.5 million in gifts and pledges in its campaign to eliminate needless death and suffering from malaria in Africa, announced Pittsburgh Area Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton. He leads the Western Pennsylvania Conference and chairs the denomination's Global Health Initiative.

"I've seen the connection come alive," Bickerton told fellow bishops. He noted that 42 conferences have made a commitment to participate in the initiative. The average individual gift is \$96 and the average pledge is \$800.

### **CHURCH COMMITTED \$28 MILLION TO GLOBAL FUND**

The United Methodist Church aims to raise \$75 million by the end of 2015 for Imagine No Malaria. Of those funds, the denomination has committed that \$28 million will go to the Global Fund.

The United Methodist Church is the first faith-based group to work closely with the Global Fund.

The Global Fund, a public-private partnership, is the world's largest funding source for health programs that fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. People who have bought products with the (RED) label have helped support its work.

The United Methodist Church is both a donor and recipient of grants from the Global Fund, which uses its funds in part for prevention measures such as insecticide-treated bed nets as well as treatment of the disease.

The Global Fund receives support from governments and foundations worldwide. Its immense purchasing power means it can get bed nets and other supplies cheaper than most health agencies can on their own, Benn said.

Imagine No Malaria also is funding a number of other strategies. The campaign supports United Methodist hospitals, clinics and health boards across Africa that work to prevent and treat the disease.

### **EFFORTS ARE WORKING**

The various efforts are working. Since 2000, malaria deaths have decreased by 42 percent worldwide, Benn said. Deaths are down by 49 percent in Africa, where the disease has been most virulent.

Benn talked of recently visiting a hospital in eastern Africa. He asked to see its younger malaria patients and learned the hospital had not admitted a child with malaria in two weeks.

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## ***Health expert: United Methodists saving millions continued***

A physician, Benn has more than 25 years of experience in global health and advocacy. He has worked as a clinician and public health official in Germany and the United Kingdom, as well as on the staff of a rural hospital in Tanzania.

He told the bishops that since the current devastating outbreak of Ebola in the West Africa countries Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, the Global Fund has freed up funds to fight this virus as well.

“We need to do everything we can to contain Ebola. I would not for a second underestimate the challenges in these countries,” Benn said. “But we also have to keep Ebola in perspective compared to the many other health challenges the world faces.”

He said about 1,800 children still die every day from malaria, while the total mortality of Ebola at this point is estimated to be around 5,000.

Nevertheless, Benn expressed hope that malaria deaths can be eliminated. He even suggested a vaccine may be available in a few years.

In all of this, he said, The United Methodist Church plays a key role.

“I believe that churches have a unique capacity to be a source of imagination, as they have been for centuries,” he said. “They have an unparalleled network of life-giving communities all over the world. What the churches provide affects the progress achieved.”

Hahn is a multimedia news reporter for United Methodist News Service. Contact her at (615) 742-5470 or [newsdesk@umcom.org](mailto:newsdesk@umcom.org).

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## ***Recipe of the Month***

### **Wassail**

*submitted by Sarah Ferguson from her grandmother's recipe box*

### **Ingredients**

*1 1/2 cups sugar*

*1 Tbsp whole allspice*

*3 cups water*

*1 gallon apple cider*

*6 sticks cinnamon*

*12 oz frozen orange juice*

*1 Tbsp whole cloves*

*12 oz frozen lemonade (not pink)*

### **Instructions**

*Dissolve both juices in 6 cups of water.*

*Bring all ingredients to a boil.*

*Simmer 1 hour.*

*Remove spices and serve hot.*

If you would like to share one of your favorite recipes, please put it in the “newsletter” box by the office or email it to [newsletter@calvaryumcop.org](mailto:newsletter@calvaryumcop.org) and we will do our best to feature it in next month's Recipe of the Month section.



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**We support our family and friends in the military with prayer.**

### *Over Seas Assignments*

Aaron Ermer  
Alex Fogel  
Bobby Price

Daniel Richardson  
Rae-Ann Tello  
Ronald Mark Tello

### *U.S. Assignments*

David Chapman  
Tyler Crabtree  
Christine Davies  
Matt Ellison  
Jonathan Emler  
James Ferguson  
Brian Fuller

John Haney  
Josh Haney  
Mario Hernandez  
Shannon (Hause) Kizer  
Christopher Mills  
Brian Perkins  
Gene Register

Maverick Stowers  
Robbie Taylor  
Ali Varong-Ellison  
Aaron Williams



### **November Birthdays**

- 1st Jerry Bailey
- 6th Sally Cook, Deloris Landis
- 7th Yvonne Horner, Jan Jones  
Barbara Lane
- 8th Robin Lane
- 9th Mark Gilmore
- 14th Tom Ward
- 17th Jesse Nichols III
- 25th Genia Bryant
- 27th Hope Bennett, Jean Storey
- 29th Nicky Nichols IV
- 30th Roxanna Bonner, Eleonora Haney

*The Beacon* is published monthly by Calvary United Methodist Church.

To submit items, please e-mail to newsletter@calvaryumcop.org, or leave in the office marked "newsletter", or leave your submission in the slot marked NEWSLETTER outside the office door.

Items for the December issue are due by **November 15th.**

**Check your email for a copy of *The Beacon*. Let us know if you would like to be included in the email listing.**